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JHB/VT/29136

Dear Beverly

Canadian Patent Application No. 555304
YOUR REF: PK 1267 - Our File: 29136

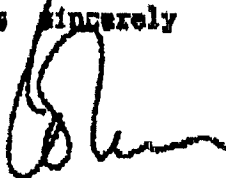
On 3 January 1992 I received by facsimile the enclosed office action from Canada. There seems to have been some delay in reporting, and the action is due for reply by 6 February next.

Presumably the time for reply is short because the action is essentially a preliminary one. I can deal with the first two objections because the title depends on the overall scope of the claims and the expression 'basic component' is not unreasonable in the context.

The main problem is the restriction requirement, which we have had to face in a number of countries but which I would have thought would not cause such difficulty in Canada. I suggest we should argue against restriction but it may be desirable to file fresh claims in which independent claims to the two stages of the total process and a dependant claim to the combined process are then followed by a single series of subsidiary claims with appropriate dependencies.

Please let me have your instructions. Our Canadian associates apologise for the delay in reporting the action and offer to file a 'holding amendment' in the event that they do not receive instructions in time.

Yours sincerely



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